

# U.S.A. SUICIDE: 2016 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

|                                | Number | Per Day | Rate | % of Deaths | Group (Number of Suicides)                 | Rate |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|------|-------------|--|------|
| Nation .....                   | 44,965 | 122.9   | 13.9 | 1.6         | White Male (31,032).....                   | 24.8 |
| Males .....                    | 34,727 | 94.9    | 21.8 | 2.5         | White Female (9,132).....                  | 7.2  |
| Females.....                   | 10,238 | 28.0    | 6.2  | 0.8         | Nonwhite Male (3,695).....                 | 10.9 |
| Whites.....                    | 40,164 | 109.7   | 15.9 | 1.7         | Nonwhite Female (1,106).....               | 3.0  |
| Nonwhites.....                 | 4,801  | 13.1    | 6.8  | 1.1         | Black/African American Male (2,206)...     | 10.2 |
| Blacks/African American .....  | 2,770  | 7.6     | 6.1  | 0.8         | Black/African American Female (564)...     | 2.40 |
| Older Adults (65+ yrs.).....   | 8,204  | 22.4    | 16.7 | 0.4         | Hispanic/Latino (3,668).....               | 6.4  |
| Young (15-24 yrs.).....        | 5,723  | 15.6    | 13.2 | 17.6        | Native Americans/Alaska Natives (629) .... | 13.6 |
| Middle Aged (45-64 yrs.) ..... | 16,196 | 44.3    | 19.2 | 3.0         | Asian/Pacific Islanders (1,402).....       | 6.8  |

**Fatal Outcomes (Suicides):** a small rate increase was seen from 2015 to 2016, continuing the recent rate increases after long-term trends of decline

- Average of 1 person every 11.7 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 older adult every 1 hour and 4 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 young person every 1 hour and 32 minutes killed themselves. (If the 443 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 1 hour and 25 minutes)

- 10th ranking cause of death in U.S.— 2nd for **young**
- 3.4 male deaths by suicide for each female death by suicide
- Suicide ranks 10th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 16th

## Leading Causes of Death 15-24 yrs

| Cause       | Number | Rate |
|-------------|--------|------|
| All Causes  | 32,575 | 74.9 |
| 1-Accidents | 13,895 | 31.9 |
| 2-Suicide   | 5,723  | 13.2 |
| 3-Homicide  | 5,172  | 11.9 |
| 10-14 yrs   | 436    | 2.1  |
| 15-19 yrs   | 2,117  | 10.0 |
| 20-24 yrs   | 3,606  | 16.1 |

**Nonfatal Outcomes (Attempt Survivors)** (figures are estimates):

- 1,124,125 annual attempts in U.S. (using 25:1 ratio); 2016 SAMHSA study: 1.3 million adults (18 and up)
- Translates to one attempt every 28 seconds (based on 1,124,125 attempts) [1.3 million = 1 every 24 seconds]
- 25 attempts for every death by suicide for nation (one estimate); 100-200:1 for young; 4:1 for older adults
- 3 female attempts for each male attempt

**Suicide Loss Survivors (those bereaved of suicide):** † (figures are estimates)

- Recent (Cerel, 2015) research-based estimate suggests that for each death by suicide → 147 people are **exposed** (6.6 million annually); among those, more than 6 **experience a major life disruption** (*loss survivors*); a low, non-research based estimate see Cerel et al. 2015)
- **If each suicide has devastating effects and intimately affects > 6 other people, there are over 269,000 loss survivors a year**
- Based on the 865,815 suicides from 1992 through 2016, therefore, the number of *survivors of suicide loss* in the U.S. is more than 5.2 million (1 of every 62 Americans in 2016); number grew by more than 269,790 in 2016
- If there is a suicide every 11.7 minutes, then there are more than 6 new loss survivors every 11.7 minutes as well

| Suicide Methods           | Number | Rate | Percent of Total |                  | Number | Rate | Percent of Total |
|---------------------------|--------|------|------------------|------------------|--------|------|------------------|
| Firearm suicides (1st)    | 22,938 | 7.1  | 51.0%            | All but Firearms | 22,027 | 6.8  | 49.0%            |
| Suffocation/Hanging (2nd) | 11,642 | 3.6  | 25.9%            | Poisoning (3rd)  | 6,698  | 2.1  | 14.9%            |
| Cut/pierce (5th)          | 864    | 0.3  | 1.9%             | Drowning (7th)   | 497    | 0.2  | 1.1%             |

| U.S.A. Suicide Rates 2006-2016<br>(Rates per 100,000 population) |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 2016<br>(total of 2,744,248 deaths; 849.3 rate) |      |  |               |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---|------|--|---------------|
| Group/<br>Age  | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | Group/<br>Age   | Rank | Cause of Death                           | Rate Deaths   |
| 5-14   | 0.5  | 0.5  | 0.6  | 0.7  | 0.7  | 0.7  | 0.8  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.1  | 5-14  | 1    | Diseases of heart (heart disease)        | 196.6 635,260 |
| 15-24  | 9.9  | 9.7  | 10.0 | 10.1 | 10.5 | 11.0 | 11.1 | 11.1 | 11.6 | 12.5 | 13.2 | 15-24   | 2    | Malignant neoplasms (cancer)             | 185.1 598,038 |
| 25-34  | 12.3 | 13.0 | 12.9 | 12.8 | 14.0 | 14.6 | 14.7 | 14.8 | 15.1 | 15.7 | 16.5 | 25-34   | 3    | Accidents (unintentional injury)         | 49.9 161,374  |
| 35-44  | 15.1 | 15.6 | 15.9 | 16.1 | 16.0 | 16.2 | 16.7 | 16.2 | 16.6 | 17.1 | 17.4 | 35-44   | 4    | Chronic lower respiratory diseases       | 47.8 154,596  |
| 45-54  | 17.2 | 17.7 | 18.7 | 19.3 | 19.6 | 19.8 | 20.0 | 19.7 | 20.2 | 20.3 | 19.7 | 45-54   | 5    | Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)        | 44.0 142,142  |
| 55-64  | 14.5 | 15.5 | 16.3 | 16.7 | 17.5 | 17.1 | 18.0 | 18.1 | 18.8 | 18.9 | 18.7 | 55-64   | 6    | Alzheimer's disease                      | 35.9 116,103  |
| 65-74  | 12.6 | 12.6 | 13.9 | 14.0 | 13.7 | 14.1 | 14.0 | 15.0 | 15.6 | 15.3 | 15.4 | 65-74   | 7    | Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)             | 24.8 80,058   |
| 75-84  | 15.9 | 16.3 | 16.0 | 15.7 | 15.7 | 16.5 | 16.8 | 17.1 | 17.5 | 17.9 | 18.2 | 75-84   | 8    | Influenza & pneumonia                    | 16.0 51,537   |
| 85+  | 15.9 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 15.6 | 17.6 | 16.9 | 17.8 | 18.6 | 19.3 | 19.4 | 19.0 | 85+   | 9    | Nephritis, nephrosis (kidney disease)    | 15.5 50,046   |
| 65+  | 14.2 | 14.3 | 14.8 | 14.8 | 14.9 | 15.3 | 15.4 | 16.1 | 16.6 | 16.6 | 16.7 | 65+   | 10   | Suicide [Intentional Self-Harm]          | 13.9 44,965   |
| Total  | 11.1 | 11.5 | 11.8 | 12.0 | 12.4 | 12.7 | 12.9 | 13.0 | 13.4 | 13.8 | 13.9 | Total   | 11   | Septicemia                               | 12.6 40,613   |
| Men  | 17.8 | 18.3 | 19.0 | 19.2 | 20.0 | 20.2 | 20.6 | 20.6 | 21.1 | 21.5 | 21.8 | Men   | 12   | Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis      | 12.6 40,545   |
| Women  | 4.6  | 4.8  | 4.9  | 5.0  | 5.2  | 5.4  | 5.5  | 5.7  | 6.0  | 6.3  | 6.2  | Women   | 13   | Essential hypertension and renal disease | 10.3 33,246   |
| White  | 12.4 | 12.9 | 13.3 | 13.5 | 14.1 | 14.5 | 14.8 | 14.9 | 15.4 | 15.8 | 15.9 | White   | 14   | Parkinson's disease                      | 9.2 29,697    |
| Nonwh  | 5.5  | 5.6  | 5.7  | 5.8  | 5.8  | 5.8  | 6.1  | 6.0  | 6.0  | 6.3  | 6.8  | NonWh   | 15   | Pneumonitis due to solids and liquids    | 6.1 19,715    |
| Black  | 4.9  | 4.9  | 5.2  | 5.1  | 5.1  | 5.3  | 5.5  | 5.4  | 5.5  | 5.6  | 6.1  | Black   | -    | All other causes (Residual; > 15)        | 169.1 546,313 |
| 45-64  | 16.0 | 16.7 | 17.5 | 18.0 | 18.6 | 18.6 | 19.1 | 19.0 | 19.5 | 19.6 | 19.2 | 45-64   | -    | Homicide (ranks 16th)                    | 6.0 19,362    |

- Older adults made up 15.2% of 2016 population but 18.2% of suicides • Young were 13.5% of 2016 population and 12.7% of suicides •
- Middle Aged were 26.1% of the 2016 population but were 36.0% of suicides •
- 1,290,986\* Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 (41,164 of 44,965 suicides are below age 75)
- \* alternate YPLL figure: 1,289,181 using individual years in calculations rather than 10-year age groups as above.

Many figures appearing here are derived or calculated from data in the following *official data sources*: downloaded 22 and 23 December 2017 from CDC's website: <https://wonder.cdc.gov>. Some figures were derived or calculated from data at the CDC's WONDER site.

SAMHSA 2016 study (2017): Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2017). *Key substance use and mental health indicators in the United States: Results from the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health* (HHS Pub. No. SMA 17-5044, NSDUH Series H-52). Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Rockville, MD. Retrieved 23 Dec 2017 from <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-FFR1-2016/NSDUH-FFR1-2016.pdf>

Cerel, J. (2015, April 18). *We are all connected in suicidology: The continuum of "survivorship."* Plenary presentation at the 48th annual conference of the American Association of Suicidology, Atlanta GA. [data from Cerel, Brown, Maple, Bush, van de Venne, Moore, & Flaherty, in progress; personal communication 20 Dec 2015]

† Cerel, J., McIntosh, J. L., Neimeyer, R. A., Maple, M., & Marshall, D. (2014). The continuum of "survivorship": Definitional issues in the aftermath of suicide. *Suicide & Life-Threatening Behavior*, 44(6), 591-600.

suicide rate = (number of suicides by group / population of group) X 100,000  
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**Suicide Data Page: 2016**  
24 December 2017

## Rate, Number, and Ranking of Suicide for Each U.S.A. State\*, 2016

| Rank | State [Division / Region]         | Deaths        | Rate        | Division [Abbreviation]                   | Rate        | Number        |
|------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---|-------------|---------------|
| 1    | Alaska [P / West]                 | 193           | 26.0        | Mountain [M] .....                        | 20.7        | 4,942         |
| 2    | Montana [M / West]                | 267           | 25.6        | East South Central [ESC] .....            | 16.0        | 3,038         |
| 3    | Wyoming [M / West]                | 144           | 24.6        | West North Central [WNC] .....            | 16.0        | 3,392         |
| 4    | New Mexico [M / West]             | 471           | 22.6        | South Atlantic [SA] .....                 | 14.1        | 9,013         |
| 5    | Nevada [M / West]                 | 650           | 22.1        | West South Central [WSC] .....            | 14.1        | 5,542         |
| 5    | Colorado [M / West]               | 1,168         | 22.1        | <b>Nation .....</b>                       | <b>13.9</b> | <b>44,965</b> |
| 7    | Oklahoma [WSC / South]            | 822           | 21.0        | East North Central [ENC] .....            | 13.7        | 6,386         |
| 8    | Idaho [M / West]                  | 351           | 20.9        | Pacific [P] .....                         | 12.5        | 6,574         |
| 9    | Utah [M / West]                   | 620           | 20.3        | New England [NE] .....                    | 11.8        | 1,742         |
| 10   | West Virginia [SA / South]        | 362           | 19.8        | Middle Atlantic [MA] .....                | 10.5        | 4,336         |
| 11   | Oregon [P / West]                 | 772           | 18.9        |   |             |               |
| 11   | Vermont [NE / Northeast]          | 118           | 18.9        | <b>Region [Subdivision Abbreviations]</b> | <b>Rate</b> | <b>Number</b> |
| 13   | South Dakota [WNC / Midwest]      | 163           | 18.8        | West (M, P) .....                         | 15.0        | 11,516        |
| 14   | Missouri [WNC / Midwest]          | 1,133         | 18.6        | Midwest (WNC, ENC) .....                  | 14.4        | 9,778         |
| 14   | Arkansas [WSC / South]            | 555           | 18.6        | South (ESC, WSC, SA) .....                | 14.4        | 17,593        |
| 16   | North Dakota [WNC / Midwest]      | 140           | 18.5        | <b>Nation .....</b>                       | <b>13.9</b> | <b>44,965</b> |
| 17   | Arizona [M / West]                | 1,271         | 18.3        | Northeast (NE, MA) .....                  | 10.8        | 6,078         |
| 17   | New Hampshire [NE / Northeast]    | 244           | 18.3        |   |             |               |
| 19   | Kansas [WNC / Midwest]            | 514           | 17.7        |   |             |               |
| 20   | Kentucky [ESC / South]            | 756           | 17.0        |   |             |               |
| 20   | Maine [NE / Northeast]            | 226           | 17.0        |   |             |               |
| 22   | Tennessee [ESC / South]           | 1,111         | 16.7        |   |             |               |
| 23   | South Carolina [SA / South]       | 815           | 16.4        |   |             |               |
| 24   | Alabama [ESC / South]             | 788           | 16.2        |   |             |               |
| 25   | Washington [P / West]             | 1,141         | 15.7        |   |             |               |
| 26   | Indiana [ENC / Midwest]           | 1,034         | 15.6        |   |             |               |
| 27   | Pennsylvania [MA / Northeast]     | 1,970         | 15.4        |   |             |               |
| 28   | Florida [SA / South]              | 3,143         | 15.2        |   |             |               |
| 29   | Wisconsin [ENC / Midwest]         | 866           | 15.0        |   |             |               |
| 30   | Ohio [ENC / Midwest]              | 1,707         | 14.7        |   |             |               |
| 31   | Louisiana [WSC / South]           | 677           | 14.5        |   |             |               |
| 32   | Iowa [WNC / Midwest]              | 451           | 14.4        |   |             |               |
|      | <b>Nation</b>                     | <b>44,965</b> | <b>13.9</b> |   |             |               |
| 33   | Virginia [SA / South]             | 1,166         | 13.9        |   |             |               |
| 34   | Georgia [SA / South]              | 1,409         | 13.7        |   |             |               |
| 34   | Michigan [ENC / Midwest]          | 1,364         | 13.7        |   |             |               |
| 36   | North Carolina [SA / South]       | 1,373         | 13.5        |   |             |               |
| 36   | Minnesota [WNC / Midwest]         | 745           | 13.5        |   |             |               |
| 38   | Nebraska [WNC / Midwest]          | 246           | 12.9        |   |             |               |
| 39   | Mississippi [ESC / South]         | 383           | 12.8        |   |             |               |
| 40   | Texas [WSC / South]               | 3,488         | 12.5        |   |             |               |
| 40   | Delaware [SA / South]             | 119           | 12.5        |   |             |               |
| 42   | Hawaii [P / West]                 | 174           | 12.2        |   |             |               |
| 43   | Rhode Island [NE / Northeast]     | 126           | 11.9        |   |             |               |
| 44   | Illinois [ENC / Midwest]          | 1,415         | 11.1        |   |             |               |
| 44   | Connecticut [NE / Northeast]      | 397           | 11.1        |   |             |               |
| 46   | California [P / West]             | 4,294         | 10.9        |   |             |               |
| 47   | Maryland [SA / South]             | 586           | 9.7         |   |             |               |
| 48   | Massachusetts [NE / Northeast]    | 631           | 9.3         |   |             |               |
| 49   | New York [MA / Northeast]         | 1,679         | 8.5         |   |             |               |
| 50   | New Jersey [MA / Northeast]       | 687           | 7.7         |   |             |               |
| 51   | District of Columbia [SA / South] | 40            | 5.9         |   |             |               |

*Caution: Annual fluctuations in state levels combined with often relatively small populations can make these data highly variable. The use of several years' data is preferable to conclusions based on single years alone.*

Suggested citation: Drapeau, C. W., & McIntosh, J. L. (for the American Association of Suicidology). (2017). *U.S.A. suicide 2016: Official final data*. Washington, DC: American Association of Suicidology, dated December 24, 2017, downloaded from <http://www.suicidology.org>.

**Source:** Obtained 23 December 2017 from CDC/NCHS's *WONDER* (to appear in *Deaths: Final Data for 2016*, forthcoming)  
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>

[data are by place of residence]  
[Suicide = ICD-10 Codes X60-X84, Y87.0, U03]

Note: All rates are per 100,000 population.

\* Including the District of Columbia.

**Suicide State Data Page: 2016  
24 December 2017**

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*“to understand and prevent suicide  
as a means of promoting human well-being”*

Visit the AAS website at:

**<http://www.suicidology.org>**

For other suicide data, and an archive of state data, visit the website below and click on the dropdown “Suicide Stats” menu:

<http://pages.iu.edu/~jmcintos/>